

CHAPTER 197

AN ACT prohibiting political contributions by public agencies and supplementing P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.).

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

C.19:44A-11.9 Political contributions by public agencies prohibited; definition.

1. A public agency shall not pay or make any contribution of money or other thing of value, whether out of public funds or any other funds which the public agency may control, to any candidate, candidate committee, joint candidates committee, political committee, continuing political committee, political party committee, or legislative leadership committee, and no such candidate or committee shall accept such contribution.

Any person who willfully and intentionally makes or accepts a contribution in violation of this section shall be liable to the penalties set forth in subsections e. and f. of section 22 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-22).

As used in this section, "public agency" means any of the principal departments in the Executive Branch of State Government, and any division, board, bureau, office, commission or other instrumentality within or created by such department; the Legislature of the State and any office, board, bureau or commission within or created by the Legislative Branch; and any independent State authority, commission, instrumentality or agency, **including any public institution of higher education.** The terms also mean any political subdivision of the State or combination of political subdivisions, and any division, board, bureau, office, commission or other instrumentality within or created by a political subdivision of the State or combination of political subdivisions, and any independent authority, commission, instrumentality or agency created by a political subdivision or combination of political subdivisions.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved November 2, 2007.